

GRANITE STATE LIBRARIES



Manchester City Library's New Children's Room

In the Spring of 2017, the Children's Room staff met with Stibler Associates in Bedford to discuss a questionnaire that we filled out of ideas we would like to see in a new children's room. After a 3-hour meeting, we had a wish list that was five pages long. Among the items we wished for, was more floorspace for patrons, a toddler/storytime area, better seating, combined service desk, and many more items that would improve service for our patrons.

For the next year and half, our Library Director, Denise Van Zanten worked with our

The hand-drawn mural wall depicts the buildings you would have seen on the horizon if you were standing at the main entrance of the library when it opened in 1914. *Photo by Bobbi Slossar, NHSL*

Trustee and Foundation Boards to secure the funding for this project through grants, trust funds, and donations. By the end of Summer 2018, they had secured enough monies to begin the project in the Fall. On November 1, 2018, library staff and volunteers began to move the entire children's room and their collection into our programming room, upstairs to the reading room and the stacks area. For the next six months working with Stibler, City of Manchester and many contractors, the new children's room became a reality. In developing the new layout, we wanted something that was timeless; that honored the 104 year old building as well as our neighborhood.

On Monday, April 15, 2019, over 6 months after the project began, the new children's room opened to the public. The layout is a park setting that is colorful and bright. The blue carpet down the middle of the room represents the water of the Merrimack; the grey and green carpet on either side is the shoreline. All the new lighting is on dimmer switches. Circulation and reference desks are now combined into a beautiful desk built by Aubin Woodworking from Bow located in office space that was not used on a regular basis. We worked with Brandt Design from Hooksett to create a mural wall that was hand drawn using actual pictures from the 1910's of buildings you would have seen on the horizon if you were standing at the main entrance when the library first opened in 1914. The Pandora Building in the Millyard, the Manchester West Library when it was a firehouse, and City Hall surround the new Toddler/Storytime area that has stadium seating and play house. Both the tables and chairs are adjustable to different heights. There is a reading nook/charging area where kids and parents can read and enjoy the room.

Since the grand opening, we have heard a lots of "Wow, this is awesome!" and "This is not the same room!," comments along with many more. Adults who used to come as kids to the old children's room have stopped by to see the new room after seeing it on television or social media. They are excited and cannot wait to bring their kids and/or grandkids to the library to enjoy the new space.

"Wow, this is awesome!"

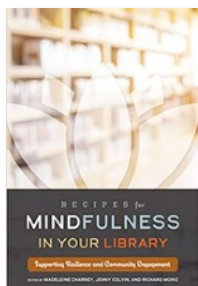
**-OVERHEARD BY MCL
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS**

We are so happy with our new space. It will gives us opportunities to provide more materials and programming for our patrons. - Article by Karyn Isleb, Head of Youth Services, Manchester City Library



The blue carpet represents the water of the Merrimack River and grey and green carpet on either side is the shoreline. Photo provided by Manchester City Library

New Resources from NHSL



Recipes for Mindfulness in Your Library: Supporting Resilience and Community Engagement. ALA. ed. by Madeleine Charney & others. ISBN 978-0-8389-1783-1

I have followed the work of Charney and Moniz for several years now. Knowing their committed work to mindfulness and libraries, I knew this book with co-editor Colvin would be a helpful resource to libraries and librarians everywhere. The book challenges us to be empathetic to the growing wellness needs of our communities, staff and ourselves. Predominantly examples of mindfulness practices in academic settings, the ideas to reach inside and out and promote mindfulness will work in many types of settings. New Hampshire Librarian shout out to chapter contributor Laura Horwood-Benton, Programming and Community Librarian at the Portsmouth Public Library. *-Deborah Dutcher*

Council (ULC), who recently partnered with the National Summer Learning Association, shows that libraries are being called to serve up much more than reading opportunities to their communities during the summer.

Has participation in your summer program decreased at your library? Maybe it is time to investigate what barriers are preventing youth and families from visiting. Technology has also changed how we interact. Are you incorporating hands-on technology in your programs? Perhaps it is time to try a new service model and incorporate outreach. Let this book help you develop specific outcome statements and guide a transformation in your library's summer programs. *-Deborah Dutcher*



Cole, Natalie & Virginia A. Walter. Transforming Summer Programs at Your Library: Outreach and Outcomes in Action. ALA. ISBN 978-0-8389-1628-5

Summer library programs were designed decades ago to motivate children to use the library during the summer. Keeping them reading has always been a goal but we now refer to that as preventing the summer slide. Current research by the Urban Libraries



Ostman, Sarah & Stephanie Saba. Book Club Reboot: 71 Creative Twists. ALA. ISBN 978-0-8389-1856-2

Are traditional book clubs passé? NO. However, does your book club have poor attendance and members (including you) that are bored or burned out? Perhaps it is time for a Reboot. Not only do Ostman and Saba present a plethora of book club ideas, but talk about community needs, meeting time and locations. While I am attracted to the Donuts & Death book club idea, there are many ideas that are equally quirky, meet specific needs, and get us out of the library and more. The book concludes with a nice list of book club resources. *-Deborah Dutcher*



These books are available to borrow via interlibrary loan.



Library Happenings

Elizabeth Yates Award

On May 18, 2019, retired Pillsbury Free Library staff member Anna Allen of Warner was honored by the Concord Public Library Foundation with the Elizabeth Yates award for inspiring young children to read. Many members of the NH library community know Anna from her years working at the Manchester City West Branch Library. -
Deborah Dutcher, NHSL



Anna Allen (Photo by
Karen Landsman)

Originally, the exhibit was created to support the grand re-opening of the Derry Public Library (Derry, NH) in September 2011. Since that time, the exhibit has been touring libraries and community venues in southern New Hampshire. The exhibit has visited over 60 libraries, most recently the Pillsbury Free Library in Warner. It is the artists' goal to have it hosted by every library in the state at some point. -*Article submitted by Nancy Ladd, Director, Pillsbury Free Library, Warner*

NHLTA & Friends Groups Meet

Regional NHLTA and Library Friends met at the Pillsbury Free Library in Warner on May 1, 2019 to share ideas. -*Information submitted by Nancy Ladd, Director, Pillsbury Free Library.*

Hopkinton Town Library Reopens

The Hopkinton Town Library reopened this month after suffering fire and water damage caused by a lightning strike to the cupola last August. The library was renovated to include a small cafe area and study rooms, pictured below. -*Article and photo by Bobbi Slossar, NHSL*

The Road Not Taken

A fine art exhibit inspired by the poetry of Robert Frost is making the rounds of libraries and nature centers throughout the state of New Hampshire. The presentation designed by three Derry artists, Ingeborg V. Seaboyer, Judy Krassowski, and Corinne Dodge, features approximately 30 works that reflect a variety of personal interpretations of the most famous, as well as some of the "less traveled" works of one of America's most inspiring poets, Robert Frost.

Images in pen and ink, watercolor, acrylics, and oils are accompanied by a selected verse that inspired each individual work. An exhibit reference book provides additional information on the artists, as well as upcoming exhibit venues.



Bookapalooza Program comes to Jaffrey

Following the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January, ALSC cleans out their office of the previous year's nearly 3,000 books, videos and audiobooks they received to evaluate from children's trade publishers. Named the *Bookapalooza* Program, ALSC selects three libraries to receive a share of this bounty to transform their current collection and make room at the ALSC office for the next years newly published materials. This year, Jaffrey Public Library was one of the three libraries to receive this award.

Jaffrey Public Library Director Julie Perrin reports that 55 boxes arrived and were sorted. The nonprofit, Shelter from the Storm, which provides transitional housing for families, will pick up their first books next week. The library will also distribute books to areas where children wait, to provide pop-up libraries at laundromats, barbershops, and doctor offices. Small libraries in the regions library coop will be able to select books for their libraries during at their August meeting. -Article by Julie Perrin, Director, Jaffrey Public Library



Andrea Connolly, Youth Services Librarian as the boxes of children's materials from ALSC arrived. Photo by Julie Perrin, Jaffrey Public Library.



Daland Memorial Library decorations are out of this world

For several years now, children's librarian Joann Kitchel's husband, Chris Hipp, has been very creative in decorating the library's lawn according to the summer reading theme. It is hard not to miss the rocket ship in front of the library in Mont Vernon. It looks like the collaborative summer reading program themes do inspire much more than just reading. -Article and photos by Deborah Dutcher

Daland Memorial Library's summer reading decorations built by Chris Hipp.



Assistant Director Amy Wyman and Children's Librarian Joann Kitchel



*I don't understand
what's going on,
but I think he needs
help.*

*Wish I could help, but I
don't know what to do.*

*Should I ask what is
wrong? What if I
make her angry?*

A young person you know could be experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis. You can help. Take the course, save a life, strengthen your community.

Questions?

Call us at:

(603) 271-3947

Get FREE Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Sometimes, the best first aid is you.

You are more likely to encounter someone—friend, family member, student, neighbor—in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. YMHFA teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to young people showing signs

of a mental illness or in crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self-help care. Anyone can take the 8-hour course, but it is ideally designed for people age 16 and older who interact regularly with young people, ages 12-18.

Date: Monday, 22 July

Time: 9-5

Location: Hooksett Public Library

Registration details: Limited number of attendees!

You MUST sign up HERE: <https://forms.gle/53G637Y9oVK7bFit9>

Please bring your own water/beverage, snacks and lunch.



OFFICE OF STUDENT WELLNESS

Presented by:

NH Department of Education



NITT
NOW IS THE TIME
PROJECT AWARE

Mental Health First Aid USA is coordinated by the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

Project AWARE is an initiative of the Office of Student Wellness at the NH Department of Education. For more information, visit: www.NHStudentWellness.org.



Fracesttown holds their blast-OFF event

The Fracesttown Public Library kicked off their summer reading program Wednesday, June 12. The good size group gathered at Fracesttown Elementary laughed and were in awe of *Magic by George*. The many participants from the crowd only enhanced the magic taking place right in front of us all. Following the show we had the opportunity to meet George's show assistants Hocus and Pocus, whom he stated are 16 years old and will be with him for many years to come. The Magic by George program was made possible by the generosity of the Kids, Books and the Arts, with funding provided by Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation, CLNH, Cogswell Benevolent Trust, NH State Council on the Arts and ILMS funds administered by the NH State Library, and by the continued support of the Fracesttown Academy. -Article and photo by Deborah Dutcher, NHSL

The Ladybug Picture Book Award

The Ladybug Picture Book Award Committee has chosen the nominees for the 2019 Ladybug Picture Book Award which are listed at <http://ladybug.nhbookcenter.org>. This award is a project of the Center for the Book at the NH State Library to promote early literacy. Beginning later in June there will be a post each Friday on the Center for the Book blog (<http://nhbookcenter.blogspot.com>) featuring one of the nominated titles. These posts will include resources about each book and information for using that title with kids. These materials were compiled by Deborah Dutcher, Youth and Adult Services Librarian, NHSL and Karen Landsman, Library Media/Tech Integration Specialist, Hooksett School District. At the end of the summer all the resources on each book will be compiled into a voting guide which will be available as a free pdf on the Center's web site.

New Hampshire children, from preschool to third grade, will select the winning picture book when they vote in November 2019. The deadline for schools and libraries to send in votes will be Friday, December 13, 2019 at 4:30pm. Voting materials, including a link for submitting vote tallies online, will be posted on the [Ladybug web page](#) in July. -Mary Russell, NHSL

Meeting Room Policies Workshop

A Meeting Room Policies workshop will be held on Monday August 19, from 9:30 to 12:00 at Lincoln Public Library (Lincoln, NH).

Can we prohibit political groups from using library spaces? What liability issues do we have to think about regarding library meeting room use by outside groups? These and other questions will be addressed in a free workshop dedicated to looking at best practices related to public library meeting room use. This workshop, requested by the North Country Libraries Co-op, will be opened up to non-North Country librarians once all NCL co-op members have reserved their spots. Openings to be filled will be put out on NHAIS, and will be first-come, first-served. If your co-op would like to have this workshop presented, please contact Lori Fisher, Assistant State Librarian, at 271-2393 or lori.fisher@dncr.nh.gov.

Request for Reconsideration Policies: Add Library Programs, Exhibits, & Displays

At the 2018 Public Library Association conference, one of the sessions I attended was “Libraries Aren’t Neutral: Programming and Policies for the Political Climate.” This was a packed session, and the info was very well received. For a full link to the slide show that accompanied the presentation, click here: <http://2018.placonference.org/program/libraries-arent-neutral-programming-and-resources-for-the-political-climate/>.

The biggest take-away I had was the need for all libraries to revise their request for reconsideration policies and forms to reflect more than just materials – they should also include programs, exhibits, and public displays. The reason is to provide more transparency for your community, meaning there is a set process to follow if someone has a complaint about any resource within the library. This form and policy DOES NOT cover programs or events that are coordinated by outside groups and held in library spaces (where the library is allowing the outside group to use space and is only providing the location, not sponsorship). This does cover any library-sponsored programs, library displays, and library exhibits. Below are a few resource links to get you started on making that revision. The sample policy from ALA is rather simple; the examples from the two public library districts in Illinois are more comprehensive. In particular, the Gail Borden Public Library District led the presentation of the 2018 PLA session.

In this climate of challenge, a policy that provides structure for your community members to be heard can go a long way toward minimizing public relations issues and community division. I urge all New Hampshire libraries to revise their reconsideration policies to reflect all of the resources they provide, not just materials that patrons check out with their library card. –Lori Fisher, Assistant State Librarian, NHSL

Sample policy form from ALA:

<http://www.ala.org/tools/challengedmaterials/support/samlereconsideration>

Gail Borden Public Library District policy & form links:

<https://www.gailborden.info/about-the-library/library-policies/1270-resource-selection-and-maintenance-policy>

<https://www.gailborden.info/pdf/policies/Resource-Selection-and-Maintenance-Policy-Forms.pdf>

Oak Park Public Library (IL) – this is an online form, but you can easily create a paper form with this info:

<https://oppl.org/about/policies/requests-for-reconsideration-of-library-materials-programs-exhibits-or-displays/>



Submit Your Library News!

Do you have news to share from your library? Submit your article and photos to Deborah Dutcher, Youth & Adult Services Coordinator at NHSL, before the first Friday of each month. Be sure to include article and photo credits. Deborah can be reached at deborah.Dutcher@dncr.nh.gov